



Needs Assessment Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 20, 2006

Shelby County Administration Building

160 North Main Street, Mayor's Large Conference Room, 8th floor

Executive Committee

Scott Fleming, Chairman

Nick Clark, Vice-Chairman

Cato Johnson, Vice-Chairman

Nisha Powers, Secretary

Committee Members

David Lillard, Commissioner

Deidre Malone, Commissioner

Dr. Thomas Glass

Aubrey Howard

David Pickler

Patrice Robinson

Jay Weatherington

Shelby County Government

A C Wharton, Jr., Mayor

Committee members present:

Scott Fleming, Chairman

Nick Clark, Vice-Chairman

Nisha Powers, Secretary

Commissioner David Lillard

Dr. Thomas Glass

Jay Weatherington

Committee members absent:

Commissioner Deidre Malone

Aubrey Howard

Wanda Halbert

Patrice Robinson

David Pickler

NAC Consultants: DeJong/JAED

Carolyn Staskiewicz, DeJong

School personnel present:

Dr. Richard Holden, Assistant Superintendent, SCS

Shelby County Administration and staff:

John Fowlkes, CAO

Grace Hutchinson, Deputy Director, Finance and Administration

Richard S. Copeland, Director, Memphis and Shelby County DPD

Paul Young, Senior Planner, Memphis and Shelby County DPD

Visitors present:

Dr. Susan Roakes, U of M, Dept. of City and Regional Planning

Chairman Fleming called the meeting to order at 1:45 PM.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Fleming welcomed everyone to the meeting, and stated there are two agenda items:

1. SCS request for immediate funding for elementary/middle school in SE Shelby County.
2. MCS presentation of its Master Plan.

SCS - Request for Immediate Funding for Elementary/Middle School in SE Shelby County

Chairman Fleming recognized Dr. Richard Holden to make the presentation.

Dr. Holden stated the SE high school was prioritized at first, but the SE elementary/middle school is now critical and shared the following information:

- ◆ Highland Oaks has 19 portable classrooms and no more portables can fit on the site.
- ◆ Southwind Elementary has 13 portable classrooms on the campus. Additional portables will require a paved road for fire department access.
- ◆ Southwind Middle has 7 portable classrooms.
- ◆ SCS is now developing an alternative plan to utilize the Old Schnuck's building to alleviate the need for additional portables. The 3-year lease would for \$340K per year with option to renew annually (anticipating 2 additional years). The new school could be any combination of K-8.

Dr. Holden gave an overview of the SCS Capital Improvement Program. Dr. Holden acknowledged it would be difficult to have the SE elementary/middle school ready by August 2007, but would try if land could be acquired in the next couple of weeks. This additional school will alleviate some of the stress currently on Southwind and Rivercrest.

Discussion was then focused on the joint funding agreement.

The Committee asked Dr. Holden several questions regarding the SCS presentation.

- ◆ When would you expect funding? Dr. Holden replied Fiscal Year 2007.
- ◆ How much? Dr. Holden said \$16M to complete all projects by August 2007.
- ◆ Can cafeterias, gyms, auditoriums sustain the increase in students? Yes.
- ◆ What's the relationship between Schnuck's and the new school? Dr. Holden responded Schnuck's would be temporary until another suitable option is found. The lease dollars would come from SCS operating budget.

Dr. Tom Glass stated that there should be more discussion on the "non-cost benefits" for the children. A cost benefit analysis was suggested as another way of looking at educational facilities planning.

Dr. Holden indicated that the following "non-cost benefits" were affected by using portables:

- ◆ Safety
- ◆ Instructional methodology
- ◆ Respiratory problems
- ◆ Higher expense for heating and cooling
- ◆ Higher expense for cleaning and maintenance

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Lillard to recommend approval of \$12M for the new elementary school and the two building additions at Rivercrest and Southwind. Mr. Jay Weatherington seconded that motion. Then, an amendment was made by Commissioner Lillard to withhold approval of additions to Southwind until Ms. Maura Sullivan could provide additional information for the request. Mr. Weatherington seconded the amended motion and motion was carried

SCS ACTION: SCS (Ms. Sullivan) to provide information for funding request for Southwind addition.

MCS - Presentation of Master Plan and Proposed Capital Projects

Chairman Fleming announced the presentation of the Master Plan would be postponed until a later date.

Sara Lewis stated for that the housing market has critically impacted schools, and we have learned that we MUST have everybody at the table (DPD, MHA, etc.). The school system must be involved in these things that affect communities.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjourn

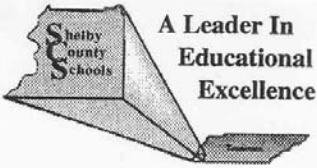
The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nisha Powers, Secretary

Date

Attachments



Dr. Bobby G. Webb
Superintendent

Voice (901) 321-2521
Fax (901) 321-2642

December 14, 2005

Scott Fleming, AIA, Chairman
Shelby County Needs Assessment Committee
5124 Poplar Avenue, Suite 106
Memphis, TN 38117


Dear Mr. Fleming:

Per our presentation to the Needs Assessment Committee (NAC) on December 12, 2005, Shelby County Schools is formally requesting the NAC to recommend to the Shelby County Board of Commissioners the need for immediate funding of an elementary/middle school in the southeast area of Shelby County. I have attached a copy of the presentation for your records. This need was presented in our original presentation to the NAC in 2004 and has become Shelby County Schools' highest priority after securing a funding commitment for the new high school in the southeast area.

As you know, the landmark joint funding agreement addressed the need for an elementary/middle school in the southeast area in the form of leasing the former Schnuck's Market at Riverdale and Holmes. A proposal was made by DESCO and studied by Mayor Wharton's finance department. After careful study, the lease idea has been dismissed. I have attached a letter from Jim Huntzicker, Director of Finance, to verify the statements regarding the lease. Through great foresight of the joint funding agreement, the alternative of building a new school in the traditional method is addressed. We now need to move forward with funding approvals for this alternative.

It is important to receive a funding commitment from County government, acquire land, and begin construction in order to get this school open as soon as possible. As you have seen in our presentation, there are 39 portables in use on three campuses in this area and certainly more will be needed prior to opening a new school. We stand ready to provide information to answer all questions regarding this project. Time is of the essence as the children of this community are at risk.

Thank you for all that you do to serve the children of Shelby County.

Sincerely,

Bobby G. Webb, Ed.D.
Superintendent

BGW/cra

cc: (with attachments)
Mr. David Pickler
Mr. Richard Holden
Mayor A C Wharton
Mr. Jim Huntzicker

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